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One border incident over Yom Kippur

MISGAV AM. — Small arms fire was directed from Lebanon at an Israeli unit near here on Sunday, in the only incident to an otherwise quiet Yom Kippur along this border. Fire was not returned.

The small arms fire came from the direction of a southern Lebanon highway, near outposts of the Lebanese army and UN observation posts. Small arms fire has been directed a number of times during the past few weeks at Israeli army units as well as civilian vehicles on the northern road between Metulla and Kibbutz Mazara. Yesterday's fire lasted several minutes. Reinforced police and Civil Guard units were on duty at crowded synagogues throughout the north, particularly in Kiryat Shmona, Shlomi and Ma'alot.

(See Kippur observance, story page 2)

Bombings rock Tripoli after Lebanese troops battle leftists, kill 12

BEIRUT (UPI). — The army clashed with civilian militia in strife-torn north Lebanon yesterday, touching off a rash of bombings that threatened to break the uneasy truce between warring Muslim and Christian militias in Tripoli. The renewed violence erupted following a clash between army troops and gunmen from the Revolutionary October 23 Socialist Movement near Tripoli earlier in the day. The troops killed 12 of the gunmen in a two-hour gun battle that raised the toll for two weeks of sectarian warfare in the north to 125 dead and nearly 300 more wounded.

Police sources said Muslim leftists seized three police stations in Tripoli, where at least 15 explosions occurred after nightfall. There were also unconfirmed reports from Tripoli that left-wingers had kidnapped a number of government officials, including army officers, policemen and customs officials.

In Beirut, sporadic exchanges of machinegun and sniper fire continued between the right-wing Christian suburb of Ain Rummaneh and neighbouring Chah, a left-wing Muslim and Palestinian stronghold.

Interior Minister Camille Chamoun said the government was considering the possibility of bringing the army into the capital to quell the clashes.

Chamoun met with Yasser Arafat to discuss the fighting. He told reporters that "firm measures" have been decided on which, if things do not quiet down, will be enforced today.

Asked if there was a possibility of army intervention in Beirut similar to its intervention in Tripoli last week, Chamoun said: "Yes, there is."

Talks on U.S. arms tomorrow

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — Defence Minister Shimon Peres begins three days of talks with senior American officials tomorrow on Israel's long term military supply needs. According to "Aviation Week" he will be specifically interested in negotiating contracts for F-15 and F-16 fighter planes, Lance surface-to-surface missiles, sophisticated laser and television-guided "smart" bombs and arms technology transfers that will increase Israel's military self-sufficiency.

Peres, who is scheduled to arrive in New York today before continuing to Washington, is being accompanied by a delegation of senior Defence Ministry aides and army officers, including Aluf Elyan Peled, commander of the Air Force.

It is believed here that his visit is part of the U.S. commitment to Israel included in one of the recently signed — but still secret — bilateral agreements which provides that the U.S. and Israel will initiate a joint study of Israel's long term defence needs within three weeks after the signing on Sept. 4 of the Sinai Pact. (That U.S. commitment was first revealed by The Post last Friday.)

The agreement says Israel's defence needs will be considered by the U.S. "sympathetically." In fact Secretary of State Kissinger, with whom Peres will meet, is believed to have already assured Israel that its arms requests for new generation weapons will be substantially met. This is one of the reasons Israel agreed to the Sinai pact with Egypt, according to many observers here.

According to foreign sources, Israel is anxious to begin at least 25 F-15's over the next two years, at a cost of some 14 million dollars each. The F-15 will not be available for export to Israel until 1977.

According to these sources Israeli Air Force planners are more interested in obtaining the cheaper F-16 fighter plane, at about six million dollars each, and making it the mainstay of the Israeli Air Force during the 1980's. The F-16 will be ready for export in 1978.

move the term 'line' from our vocabulary altogether."

The expenditure on new fortifications and the way they were constructed depended on the military situation. If speed was the top priority, then there would be less supervision. Only time could tell if the prices charged by the contractors for fortification work would be supervised closely, and "all sorts of manifestations which we had in the past," would not be repeated.

Asked about the accusation that Israel was asking for too much aid from the U.S., Gur said that this was based on an assessment of the situation by people who "after all are not responsible for our security." Israel's aid requests were justified, and he believed that they could be met.

On the war against terrorists, Gur said that Israel, as a law-abiding state which refrained from harming civilians, was limited in its actions. Within this framework, Israel had done all that was necessary, "without pointlessly proclaiming it from the rooftops," and the results spoke for themselves.

Gur said that during his term of office no difficulties had arisen from the division of authority between the Chief of Staff and the Defence Minister.

The highest priority within the IDF while the interim agreement with Egypt was in force would be to improve the quality of personnel. Difficult problems had arisen with men who had not served in the past and had been mobilized in the last year. Some of these people did not have the educational and social background to stand up to the pressures they met in the army.

Sadat attacks Soviets for Madrid terrorist incident

'Russians using Syria and PLO'

By ANAN SAFADI, POST Middle East Affairs Correspondent

Egyptian President Anwar Sadat said last night he held the Soviet Union responsible for the anti-Cairo "agitation" sweeping the Arab world. Sadat spoke as five Palestinian terrorists prepared to leave the Egyptian Embassy they had seized in Madrid and fly to Algiers. (See separate story). Sadat, in his speech, said the Madrid incident was one design in the Soviet scheme.

Indicating that Egypt's relations with the Soviet Union have reached their lowest ebb ever, Sadat disclosed that a Khrushchev had only last Saturday begun to withdraw a spy and reconnaissance formation of four MIG 25s from Egypt following a long delay in defiance of Sadat's orders. The highly sophisticated planes were serving only Moscow's strategic interests in the region, Sadat charged.

The Egyptian leader said that the Soviets have long exploited the Palestine Liberation Organization in trying to combat Egypt's post-Yom Kippur War policies.

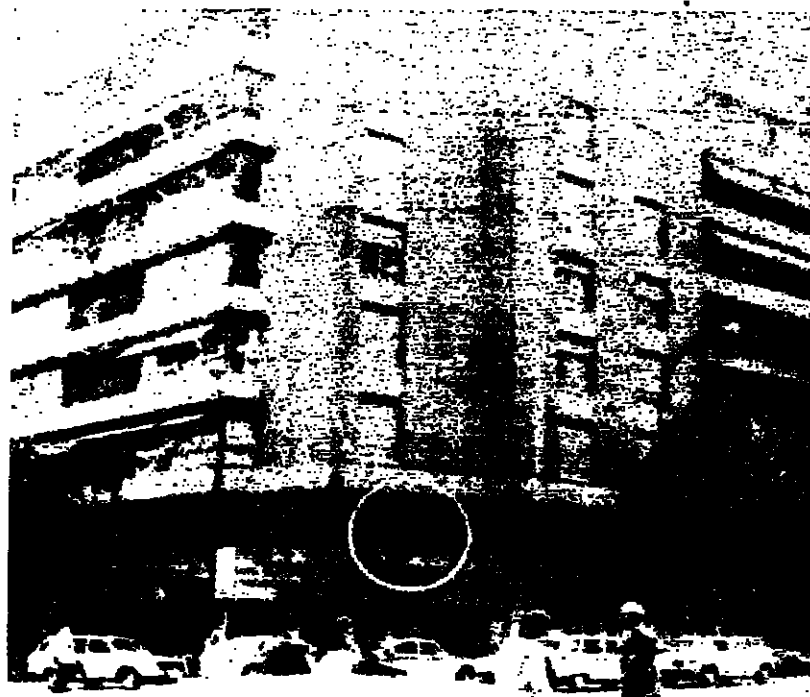
Implying that the Soviets were trying to undermine Cairo's recent interim Sinai settlement with Israel, Sadat warned that Egypt would submit to no pressures, nor would it accept any guardianship from any quarter.

Thought not mentioning direct Soviet involvement, Sadat recalled that a bid by U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger to achieve a Sinai accord last March had failed after a terrorist attack on Tel Aviv's Savoy hotel. "They provided the hotel attackers with boats carrying Port Said as their base of departure," with the aim of incriminating Egypt on the eve of those early settlement negotiations. Sadat did not specify who "they" were.

Speaking at a political gathering in Cairo, Sadat went through a list of several occasions on which he said, the Soviets instigated Syria's ruling Ba'ath party to denounce Egypt's political moves.

Sadat said that the Ba'ath party, on its part, has often been "disgraced" when it came to using the Palestinian cause as "a slogan" for challenging Egypt's policies.

The Egyptian leader said that he



The circle shows offices of the Egyptian Embassy in Madrid occupied yesterday by five Palestinian terrorists. (AP radiophoto)

Will fly to Algiers

MADRID TERRORISTS AGREE TO LEAVE EGYPTIAN EMBASSY

MADRID. — Four Arab ambassadors negotiating with Palestinian terrorists who seized the Egyptian Embassy said last night the gunmen have agreed to be flown to Algiers.

"We have reached agreement," said Iraqi Ambassador Gen. Hassan el-Nagib. "There are only a few details left to discuss."

El-Nagib told newsmen that the terrorists would be accompanied by himself and the Algerian ambassador. He made no mention of the three Egyptian diplomats the terrorists were holding inside the embassy.

Five terrorists seized the embassy during the morning, took the ambassador and two aides hostage and said they would kill them unless the Egyptian delegation withdrew from the Geneva peace talks with Israel.

Gen. el-Nagib was one of several Arab ambassadors negotiating with the Palestinians for hours as police surrounded the building in the centre of Madrid. A crowd kept a block away by police had swelled to at least 2,000 as negotiations continued into the night — toward the midnight deadline the gunmen had set for the fulfilment of their demands.

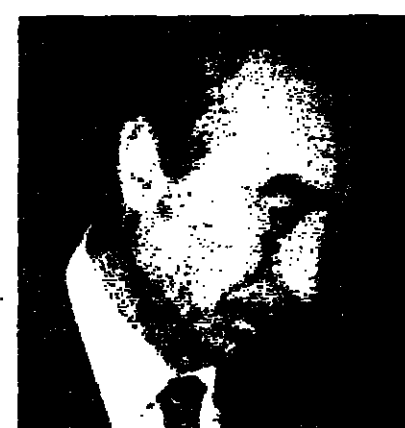
The national news agency Cifra said the agreement on the release of the hostages provided that the Palestinians would be picked up in Madrid by an Algerian airplane and flown to Algiers. They would take Gen. el-Nagib and the Algerian Ambassador with them to make sure that Spanish police would give them safe passage, Cifra said.

Negotiations between the ambassadors of Iraq, Algeria, Kuwait and Jordan and the Palestinians were partly conducted by bullhorn, partly by notes slipped under the door of the Egyptian Ambassador's study where the terrorists had barricaded themselves.

The terrorists broke into the embassy shortly before noon and gave the Egyptian Government until midnight to comply with their demands. Police officers said nobody was hurt in the attack.

After seizing the embassy, the Palestinians immediately released six Spanish employees, among them four women. They said they were only interested in holding representatives of Sadat's government.

The Arab ambassadors went to the embassy to try to negotiate the release of the three Egyptian diplomats, 55-year-old Ambassador Mahmoud Abdel Ghaffar, press attaché Mohammed al-Azili and consul Mohar el-Hamzawi.



Egyptian Ambassador to Spain Mahmoud Abdel Ghaffar in a picture taken last April in Cairo when he was deputy foreign minister. (AP radiophoto)

Ambassador Ghaffar, who had previously held diplomatic posts in Paris and New York, arrived in Madrid only a few days ago and had yet to present his credentials.

Earlier in the day, about 50 Arab students invaded the office of the Arab League in Madrid and held it for two hours, keeping the director and secretary prisoner. When the students left, they said they had no connection with the group that had seized the embassy.

The Madrid representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization, Faisal Hilmi, said the five were not members of the PLO and he had no idea what their political affiliation was.

In Cairo, President Anwar Sadat said he would blame terrorist leader Yasser Arafat and the PLO if anything happened to the three diplomats.

An Egyptian official said, "President Sadat holds all Palestinians, especially the PLO and Yasser Arafat, personally responsible for the Palestinian occupation of the Egyptian Embassy in Madrid."

The PLO, in response, condemned Egypt's "threatening tone" but said it would do all it could to save the Egyptians. "If the Egyptian authorities have any intention of taking action against our Palestinian people at this particular time, they do not need to take the embassy incident as an excuse to do so," a PLO statement said.

Spanish authorities remained mute on the situation, refusing all requests for comment.

(Continued on page 2, col. 6)

Soviets cancel army training in Egypt

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — The Soviet Union has cancelled training manoeuvres for Egyptian troops following reports that Egypt plans to expel Russian and Czech instructors from its military academy, the "Baltimore Sun" reported yesterday, quoting American intelligence sources.

Other reports say the Soviets will encourage the renewal of activity by the Egyptian Communist Party, disbanded 10 years ago. Support for this is lent by the recent appearance of an Egyptian Communist Party leaflet in Lebanon. One such report goes even further, saying the So-

viets may attempt to overthrow the Sadat regime.

The Soviets are particularly angry over Sadat's request from the American Navy to clear Port Said harbour of mines. This violates an agreement between the Russians and Egypt that no armaments supplied by the former would be given to a third party, the Soviets claim.

There are now about 25 Russian and Czech instructors at the Egyptian Military Academy — about half as many as there were a year ago. It seems probable they will leave for Libya before the year ends.

Swiss tighten security on Egyptians at talks

By ERUD YAVARI

Special to The Jerusalem Post and Deaver GENEVA. — Swiss police tightened security around the members of the Egyptian delegation to the joint military working group yesterday, fearing that a terrorist attack on them might follow yesterday's attack in Spain.

The Egyptians have, until now, moved around fairly freely, without armed escort.

Nevertheless, the Madrid attack did not come as a surprise here, since it was expected that the Palestinian terrorists might take some action to accompany their stinging denunciations of the interim agreement.

The joint Israel-Egyptian military working group is to resume its sessions this morning as scheduled, following the Yom Kippur recess. The head of the Egyptian delegation, Maj-Gen. Taher el-Magdoub, has been

in constant touch with Cairo and by last evening there was no indication of any change in the scheduled meetings. The regular continuation of the talks here seems to have become a matter of prestige for Egypt, in the face of mounting criticism by the PLO and Syria and yesterday's attack in Madrid.

Having dealt in their last four meetings with the relatively less controversial problems of the northern sector, the Israel and Egyptian delegations today are expected to take up once more the more complicated issues of the southern sector. Although the Madrid affair may affect the atmosphere of the talks, the Egyptian delegation here is under firm instructions by Cairo to concentrate on the actual business at hand and to make every effort to complete negotiations of the joint working group by September 22, as scheduled.

Mrs. Peron on leave

BUENOS AIRES (AP). — President Isidoro Peron yesterday began his scheduled 45-day leave of absence and left for central Argentina after having transferred power to Senate Chairman Raul Alfonsín.

Mrs. Peron, 44, who flew in a military plane from Buenos Aires, was accompanied by the wives of the three commanders-in-chief of the armed forces.

Her destination was the small town of Ascochinga, in Cordoba, where the Air Force owns a well-guarded estate usually reserved for special visitors.

Provisional President Alfonsín, the eight-man cabinet and high government officials said farewell to Mrs. Peron. The wives of Gen. Jorge Videla, Admiral Emilio Massera and Brigadier Hector Gattuso will be hosts to the president. It was interpreted as a move by the armed forces to stress its support to the constitutional regime and dispel rumours that a military coup was

possible in the near future. Some reports have suggested that Mrs. Peron will not return to office. Mrs. Peron was expected later to travel to El Masador, a luxurious residence at the foot of the Andes.

Luder.

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Aerial view of Ras Sudar, the former oil drilling base some 50 kilometres south of the town of Suez, which will be the first major installation in the southern sector of Sinai to be returned to Egypt after exploitation of the Abu Rodeis oilfields started in 1956. Israel has undertaken to return the houses to the Egyptian civilian administration in their present condition. (IPPA)

Gromyko to see Ford, Kissinger

WASHINGTON (UPI).

— Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko will meet with President Ford and Secretary of State Henry Kissinger here on Thursday, the State Department said yesterday.

Gromyko is coming to the

U.S. to attend the regular session of the UN General Assembly, and will visit Washington on Thursday and Friday.

The principal item at the White House meeting is expected to be the new interim agreement between Israel and

Egypt, State Department spokesman Robert Funseth said.

Moscow has been critical of the agreement.

The leaders are also expected to discuss the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks, now said to be deadlocked in Geneva on "two or three issues."

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Social and Personal

The Galilee Art Fair, during the intermediate days of Succot — next week — will be held at Carmiel under the patronage of Education and Culture Minister Aharon Yadin, to mark the town's 10th anniversary.

MARRIAGE
MOUCHLY-WEISS. Harriet Mouchly and Charles Weiss were married at the Jerusalem Hilton, September 11, 1975.

ARRIVALS

Dr. Anton Gravel, president of the International Federation of Youth Hostels, to take part in the 10th anniversary celebrations of the youth hostel in Acre (by Lufthansa).

Freed on bail after abducting 'bride-to-be'

ASHKELON. — A young Georgian from Lydda, accused of abducting a girl from her high school here last month, was released on IL15,000 bail in Magistrates Court on Sunday.

The youngster was required to deposit IL1,500 of the bail money in cash, and was ordered to report to the police twice every day, except Saturday.

Earlier, the suspect's lawyer admitted his client had taken the girl — because he wanted to marry her — but sought to prove this was the custom in Georgia. The boy's grandfather, an observant Jew to whose home the girl was taken, testified in court he had taken a wife in the same manner. Though the judge did not accept the arguments, justification for the act, he agreed the boy was not a criminal in the usual sense of the word, and that releasing him on bail was not likely to hamper the investigation. (Itm)

Giant cold store opens at Kishon

HAIFA. — The country's largest refrigerated store, built at a cost of IL20m, was opened in the Kishon harbour last week. The 30,000 cubic metre store was put up by the Israel Corporation in partnership with a group of farmers of Meron village, near Safad. The warehouse immediately went into business, receiving 500 tons of frozen meat which arrived on a Dutch reefer. As it is located only a few hundred metres from the quay, it is now possible to unload perishable frozen goods night and day, without fear of spoilage, and Haifa Port will again receive some of the frozen meat imports which had been going mainly to Ashdod.

Western Wall looks more like Tisha B'Av

Jerusalem Post Staff
The Western Wall in Jerusalem looked more like Tisha B'Av than Yom Kippur, with many people forced to sit on the floor during services because of a dearth of benches and seats. Although the Ministry for Religious Affairs had publicized their "special preparations at the Wall" several days before the fast, there were only some 300 extra seats for tired and hungry worshippers. In resigned indignation, dozens of persons — including the elderly — had to push and shove in competition for the scarce benches. Some stood throughout or went elsewhere. The so-called "rabbi of the wall," Yehuda Getz, stayed in his accustomed place under Wilson's Arch without attempting to find a solution or cool tempers. The Religious Affairs Ministry spokesman explained to The Post last night that "it's too expensive to provide seats for all those to come to the Wall on Yom Kippur" and that "younger people should give their seats to the elderly." He added that "if we set up seating for thousands it would become an amphitheatre and destroy the character of the Western Wall." About 20 men, wrapped in prayer shawls or the cloths that covered the study tables, curled up and slept overnight near the Wall, while a few others remained awake to recite Psalms and the Talmudic tractate of Yoma. Although the number of soldiers and policemen on duty was very large, no one prevented an unbalanced old woman from screaming incoherently in the plaza for hours or refused to admit children accompanied by dogs. After the closing service last night, hundreds of yeshiva boys joined hands and danced in circles on the Wall plaza. They, and other visitors to the Wall, could be seen negotiating with Arab taxi drivers after the end of the fast to get transport home so they could eat. They agreed to pay their fares when reaching their destination, as they had no money with them during the holy day.

We deeply mourn the untimely death of our beloved

RUTH ZAK (née SPITZER)

who died in New York on September 14, 1975, after a long illness. The funeral will leave from Rambam Hospital, Haifa, for the Old Cemetery at Hof Hacarmel tomorrow, Wednesday, September 17, 1975, at 1 p.m. Transportation will be provided.

Dr. George A. Zak, New York
Judith Wolfheim (nee Spitzer), and family, Holon
Sonja Unger and family, Haifa.

On the second anniversary of the death of our dear

Dr. ARIE TOEG

we shall visit his grave in the Military Section of the Mt. of Olives Cemetery, Jerusalem, tomorrow, Wednesday, September 17, 1975, at 4 p.m.

THE FAMILY

TEL-AVIV UNIVERSITY

INVITATION
A MEMORIAL EVENING
in memory of

PROF. AUGUSTO LEVI

will be held on Wednesday, September 17, 1975, at 6 p.m. at the Gullman Building, Room 251, Kiryat Ha'Universita, Ramat Aviv.



Some industrious Tel Aviv residents get a head start on their succa Sunday, before the Yom Kippur fast began. (SBS Productions)

Quiet Yom Kippur
Special memorial prayer recited for fallen of October 1973 war

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The nation observed a serene Yom Kippur — the second since the outbreak of the explosive war that took its name — in gratitude and relief, filling synagogues to the last rows and spilling out onto the sidewalks. The 25-hour fast ended yesterday evening with a prolonged blast of the ram's horn and shouts of "Next year in a rebuilt Jerusalem!"

Although the war and its aftermath were barely a topic of conversation during the pre-Minkha recess, they were on the minds of most of the worshippers. Subdued weeping was heard as a special memorial prayer was recited for the war's 2,354 fallen soldiers, as well as for those who died in the nation's previous conflicts.

The Civil Guard patrolled the vicinity of all synagogues, many of the volunteers wearing tennis shoes (instead of leather, to "afflict the soul") and white Kittel, their heads enveloped in prayer shawls and M-1 rifles slung over their shoulder.

The nation ground to a near standstill Sunday night as most Jews walked to synagogue to begin their fast and the Kol Nidre pray-

ers. During most of the day yesterday, the streets remained bare of any signs of life, except police and emergency vehicles and people on their way to and from services. The highway leading to Jerusalem was so quiet in the afternoon that a handful of girls had the unaccustomed pleasure of jumping rope at the entrance to the city without having to dodge incoming traffic.

Security was tight, especially at barriers set up by police from the Arab suburbs to West Jerusalem and at checkpoints on all entrances to the city from the West Bank. At one spot, at Ras el-Amoud on the road from Jericho, all drivers and passengers underwent body searches. Some were indignant, but there was no trouble. Arab labourers, many of them also fasting (yesterday was the 10th day of the month-long Ramadan fast), stayed home on Yom Kippur.

Police in Jerusalem reported that "nothing out of the ordinary" occurred during the High Holiday, and Magen David Adom in Jerusalem said they treated 24 persons who fainted from hunger.

Ze'ev Schul and Yitzhak Obed add from Tel Aviv:
There were relatively few passengers on outgoing flights from Ben-Gurion Airport on Sunday. The airfield remained closed throughout the fast, although a token crew remained on standby for reactivation on short notice.

Criminals were apparently on good behaviour yesterday. According to local police statistics, only 50 calls for help were received — one-tenth of the normal average. There were no muggings, no assault charges and only one lone car thief who was caught "at work" and driven off in a caged police van instead of the luxury vehicle he had chosen.

The rest of the calls were reports of household thefts by burglars who evidently couldn't resist the temptation of so many empty flats whose owners were away repenting their own sins at neighbourhood synagogues.

The Southern District was even better behaved. Only a single theft was reported — from Lydda. The storm, on the other hand, was working overtime — flying in a total of 100 healthy infants. A weary-sounding and irate midwife at the Kirya Maternity Hospital here said there had been 37 births there since Kol Nidre. Tel Hashomer reported 28 births and Kaplan Hospital 23; and the rest were accounted for by Dorot, Assuta and other private maternity hospitals in the Tel Aviv region.

In Petah Tikva, the temporary wing of a synagogue — put up to help accommodate the Yom Kippur crowd of worshippers — burned to the ground on Sunday night. No one was hurt. The flimsy wooden lean-to was attached to the neighbourhood synagogue at the corner of Hahamisha and Sinai streets. The flames caught on to the second-storey balcony of an adjoining building, but local firemen put it out before it spread further, Itm reported.

CARS STONED

Some young hooligans in Rishon LeZion stoned passing cars from the overpass of the Ashdod-Tel Aviv highway. There were a few shattered windshields but no injuries reported. A similar incident occurred in Tiberias. And a group of teenagers from villages in the Tu'anah region stopped passing vehicles at a major intersection with barricades and stone-throwing. Police broke up the barricades, but made no arrests. All was quiet in Haifa, but in Safad thieves broke into the local Tnuva office and stole a revolver, IL2.90 and champagne left over from the Rosh Hashana office party.

RABIN'S MESSAGE

In a radio message to bereaved families on the Eve of Yom Kippur, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said: "We are entering a new year in sober awareness of the many dangers lurking ahead of us and in a sincere desire to do everything possible to bring nearer the longed-for peace... I want you to know that... the entire people feel a deep sense of identification and sincere participation in your grief... May we know no further causes of mourning."

The sounds of hammering resounded in many neighbourhoods immediately after worshippers had a chance to snatch a bite to eat, as they began work on their temporary booths for Succot. Although the Feast of Tabernacles doesn't begin until Friday night, many people start their succa right after Yom Kippur to begin the year by fulfilling a commandment. Today, and throughout the week, streets in many towns will be full of etrog and lulav vendors from whom one may purchase the "four species."

Leafy covering for succot will be distributed free by the Jerusalem Municipality tomorrow and Thursday between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. at 30 points around the city (for locations, see municipal bulletin boards).

A "Beautiful Succa" contest opens for registration to industrious Jerusalemites at the municipality building on Thursday. Those succot which are singled out as the best decorated will be awarded prizes the same day at 4 p.m. in David's Citadel.

MOSCOW

An Israeli weight-lifting team, the first of Israel's athletes to be admitted to Russia in two years, attended Kol Nidre services at Moscow's central synagogue, much to the delight of the regular worshippers. The weight-lifters arrived to attend the world weight-lifting championships in Moscow and the world wrestling championships in Minsk.

Moscow police did not attempt to move the massive crowd of 2,000 Jews from the street in front of the synagogue as they did on Rosh Hashana. Hundreds were packed into the building for the abbreviated service, which lasted about three hours.

IL50m. Koor office for Beersheba

Jerusalem Post Reporter
BEERSHEBA. — Koor Chemicals has announced plans to build a IL50m. facility here, to house its management and research activities. Mayor Eliahu Navi said last week that the municipality has helped the firm purchase the land it will need for the planned three-storey building. He said he expected the location of Koor Chemicals headquarters in the Negev will help draw many persons with technical skills to the region.

WALL STREET

Closing Mon., September 15, 1975

Concern over interest rates

NEW YORK (AP). — The stock market gave ground in extremely slow trading yesterday amid continued concern over rising interest rates. The Dow Jones Average of 20 industrials lost 8.10 to 803.19, extending its loss over the last five sessions to 36.92 points. Declines outweighed gains 894 to 375 among the 1,708 issues traded on the New York Stock Exchange. Volume reached only 8.67 million shares, the lightest total since 7.40

Rabinowitz expects U.S. aid bill for Israel to pass

BEN-GURION AIRPORT. — Finance Minister Yehoshua Rabinowitz told reporters here on Sunday he was not happy with the U.S. Administration's plan to limit economic aid to Israel to \$2.5 billion, but he thought President Ford's proposal to Congress was likely to be approved.

He was returning from the U.S., where he met with representatives of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank and worked on behalf of the Israel Bond Drive.

Rabinowitz also said Israel would receive \$200m. from the oil fund of the International Monetary Fund, half of it in another month. The sum is unrelated to Israel's withdrawal from the Abu Rodeis oil fields, he stressed. Last year Israel received \$70m. from the fund as compensation for the rise in oil prices.

In answer to a question about the

reported sale of state-owned land to add some IL700m. to Government coffers, Rabinowitz said there was possibility of being investigated and a decision would be reached when the facts were in. The proposed plan was for selling the land upon immediate receipt of 90 per cent of the land price, with the rest delivered in long-term payments.

In reply to another question, Rabinowitz said no procedures had been set for compensating Israel for the return of Abu Rodeis, but expressed the belief that proper compensation would be found.

Regarding the devaluation, he said the Government maintains its decision to effect the "creeping devaluation," and "regretted" that some speculators were disappointed by the decision to devalue a third time last week, when he was in the U.S. (Itm)

Cheaper produce offsets rises Consumer Price Index up 0.1% for August

By AARON SEITNER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Consumer Price Index rose by a mere one-tenth of a point last month, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported on Sunday. The indicator, pegged to a base-line of 100 calculated according to 1969's average retail prices, now stands at 308.6, up from 308.5 in July.

A bureau spokesman explained that climbing prices in shops last month were offset by seasonal drops in the price of agricultural produce. Without the produce factor, the CPI would have shown a hike of half a point, the spokesman said.

Fresh fruits and vegetables dropped in price by almost 6 per cent compared with July — the trend usual for this time of year. Some of the notable price reductions were plums, down 32.3 per cent; grapes, 17.9 per cent; peaches, 12.2 per cent; watermelons, down 10.3 per cent; eggplant, down 18; and green pepper, down 12.2 per cent.

But there were some steeper prices at the greengrocers': lemons were up by 20.8 per cent; pears, 7.4; green beans, 22.8; cucumbers, 17.1; onions, 12.8; and carrots, up 11.6 per cent.

According to Statistics Bureau price spotters, shoes and clothing cost less last month — by 4.1 per cent — continuing a trend that started in July with the end-of-season sales. The widest reductions last month were in underwear, beach-

wear and women's shoes. Lower prices were also evident in leather goods shops.

However, the general trend of rising prices continued last month in such areas as textbooks (up 4.7 per cent), stationery (2.7), toys off from the principle source petroleum. On Friday, an Isra- vehicle patrol supplied a UN vehi- with petrol when it ran out ne- Rosh Hanukra, in the process transferring the Greek Catho- clergy to Lebanon.

Maximum Salloum replaces Jose- Raya as Archbishop respon- for Lebanon and Galilee. (Itm)

Among the other indices maintained by the Central Bureau of Statistics, the Construction Costs Index, which measures expenditures of residential building contractors, showed a rise of 0.6 per cent compared with July. The main factor here was higher costs of tools and equipment.

The Agricultural Costs Index indicated farmers had to pay more last month for such things as pesticides, fertilizers and machinery. The aggregate average increase in prices for these was 0.3 per cent.

Woman killed by falling pole

GANEI TEKVA. — A woman conversing on a street corner was struck and killed by a falling telephone pole here on Sunday, after a tractor carried by a passing truck caught telephone lines, pulling several poles down. Police had not released the woman's name by last night. (Itm)

Madrid terrorists

(Continued from page 1)

quests for information. Spanish police said their only concern was with the safety of Spanish lives. The director-general of national security took charge of police operations at the scene. One of Madrid's busiest crossroads at the corner of Velazquez and Ortega y Gasset streets.

Six hours before the expiration of the terrorists' deadline, police ordered the total evacuation of the building housing the embassy. Officials declined to say why.

A Spanish reporter who succeeded in reaching the embassy by telephone spoke to one of the terrorists who listed the group's main demands:

● Withdrawal of the Egyptian delegation in the Geneva talks.

● A declaration by the Egyptian delegation at Geneva that signa- ture of the Sinai disengagement accord with Israel was "a betrayal of the Egyptian and Arab people that would not serve the cause of peace."

The terrorists said they would hold the ambassador and his aides until their demands were met and the Egyptian government was responsible for their lives.

Another Spanish reporter said one of the five told him they were mem-

iggi THIS WEEK
Today is the last day
Lotto forms for the 3/75 Draw
for handing in
Prizes fund about
IL1,000,000*
First-prize fund, minimum of
IL250,000*
*Subject to scrutiny.

Archbishop's family barred from Lebanon

NAHARIYA. — The family of Greek Catholic Archbishop Mar- mus Salloum failed in their attempt to cross the border in Lebanon on Sunday afternoon, attend his investiture in Beirut. The UN vehicle that was sent to meet them never appeared at Rosh Hanukra, reportedly because Lebanese authorities refused to allow the family in — although they permitted the crossing of members of the clergy last Friday at the same point. The family, who also gathered on Friday, was behind.

Itm noted last night that a UN car may not have arrived because of the petrol shortage of 2 cent days when fighting around Tripoli cut the rest of the country off from the principle source petroleum. On Friday, an Isra- vehicle patrol supplied a UN vehi- with petrol when it ran out ne- Rosh Hanukra, in the process transferring the Greek Catho- clergy to Lebanon.

Maximum Salloum replaces Jose- Raya as Archbishop respon- for Lebanon and Galilee. (Itm)

Egypt won't let Abie sail down Suez Canal

CAIRO (AP). — Israeli peace- crusader Abie Nathan will not be allowed to sail through the Suez Canal with his cargo of flowers. Egyptian security officials said yesterday.

The new Sinai settlement with Israel says non-military cargoes destined for or coming from the Jewish state may pass through the canal "but may not include Israeli citizens," a senior security official said.

Nathan sailed his Peace Ship toward the canal Sunday with cargo of flowers in an attempt to bring his own brand of person- ality to the troubled water- of the Middle East. He had group of Israeli newsmen on board too. (UPI)

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

STUDY GRANTS OFFERED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN-1976

The Government of Japan offers four study grants for Israeli students. The grants will run for a period of two years from April 1976, or for a year and a half from October 1976. Candidates must be Israeli citizens, not over the age of 35 on April 1, 1976. They should have at least a first degree. The grants will be given for study in the area in which the candidate received his degree, or an allied field. Candidates must be prepared to learn Japanese (about \$370 a month in exchange). This is adequate for the maintenance of one person. Applications should be submitted to the Director of Foreign Relations, Ministry of Education and Culture, Room 341, Tel Aviv, Israel, Jerusalem, not later than Friday, September 26, 1975. The field in which the candidate wishes to study must be indicated clearly in the application. Copies of academic certificates, curriculum vitae (in English), and a recommendation from the employer (if the candidate is studying/recommending should preferably be written in Japanese, or from the professor if written in English. Please give telephone numbers at home and at work. Applications arriving after the above date will not be considered.

KEREN KAYEMETH LEISRAEL (JEWISH NATIONAL FUND)

Hans Christian Andersen Memorial Forest

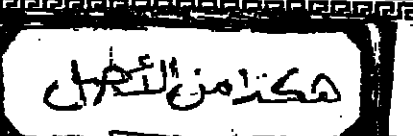
To mark the 100th Anniversary of His Death
The Ceremony of Dedication this Forest will be held in the Nazareth Hills on Wednesday, October 1, 1975, at 3.00 p.m.

Members of the Danish-Israeli Friendship League, Danish tourists and volunteers, visitors and friends wishing to participate may obtain further details from
KREL Jerusalem, Tel. 228250
KREL Tel Aviv, Tel. 234449



This evening at 8.15 p.m. at the Centre for Conservative Judaism in Jerusalem
8 Behov Agnon
The Succot Experience and Israel's Moral Challenges
With Rabbi Benjamin Hollander

The Jerusalem Khan Theatre
presents its production
Tales of Jerusalem
The spirit of Jerusalem in legend and song, in English.
Tonight at 9 p.m. at the Khan, and every Tuesday and Motza'el Shabbat in September.
Tickets at all agencies.



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Board of Trustees Haifa Symphony Orchestra Ltd.

The directors of the Board of Trustees hereby announce the opening of registration for

PLAYERS and CHOIR SINGERS

for the Haifa Symphony Orchestra.

Candidates with suitable qualifications should apply to P.O.B. 4668, Haifa, indicating their professional experience. Please note full address and telephone number.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
AND CULTURE
Adult Education Dept.

JERUSALEM
MUNICIPALITY
Culture Dept.

The Cultural Department of Jerusalem Municipality announces the opening of a

MONTH OF HEBREW LANGUAGE IMPROVEMENT

on Wednesday, October 1, 1975,
at the Young Men's Hebrew Association Ulpán
Spelling improvement; language improvement; extracts from literature; newspaper items.
Registration has started and is continuing, every day at the Ulpán
105 Behov Herzog, 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
A new course will start every month.

HADASSAH MEDICAL ORGANIZATION
Nurses School, Ein Karem

Opening of Course in X-RAY TECHNOLOGY

Acceptance: Candidates should have completed army service and should have full secondary education.
Length of course: Two years.
Participants will receive a monthly grant. No course fees.
Those completing the course successfully will receive government certificates testifying that they are CERTIFIED X-RAY TECHNICIANS.
Registration: At the Nurses School, Sunday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Registration will close on October 8, 1975.

Lisbon Premier-designate promises to defend basic freedoms

LISBON. — Premier-designate Jose Pinheiro de Azevedo promised the Portuguese people over the weekend to defend public order and basic democratic freedoms, but conceded he was having "some difficulty" in forming a new government.

In his first television appearance since President Francisco de Costa Gomes asked him to form a government more than two weeks ago, Azevedo said he hoped to announce his ministers this week.

The government is expected to include a number of military men and members of the three leading parties, the Socialists, the Popular Democrats and the Communists. The political parties were reported deadlocked over certain key points in the future government's policies.

Azevedo, a navy admiral, appeared in civilian clothes and spoke from a prepared text. His speech was phrased mostly in generalities and avoided points known to be under dispute.

He endorsed the six-month-old "pact" between the ruling Armed Forces Movement and the political parties. The pact called for free democratic elections but allowed the military to control the civilian government for three to five years. Azevedo's speech contained no explicit promise to hold new elections, nor did he promise to return the newspaper "República" to its owners, one of the basic Socialist conditions for joining the government. "República" was seized by its Communist printing workers at the start of the current political crisis six weeks ago.

Azevedo said the new government would "ensure the pluralism of the news media and respect for democracy in the trade unions" without going into detail. He said civilian armed groups would be disarmed and the new government would guarantee respect for law and order.

He pledged incentives for private enterprises in Portuguese industry and said the government would in-

still a new sense of "dynamism and efficiency" into the nationalized sectors of industry. He implied — but did not say outright — that there would be no further nationalization measures.

Socialist Party leader Mario Soares on Sunday praised the political programme of Pinheiro de Azevedo as a "chance for democracy."

Soares pledged the full support of the Socialist Party for Azevedo's efforts to put together a government. Soares and other civilian politicians, as well as an increasing number of military men, feel that unless the pace of the revolution is slowed down and brought into harmony with the wishes of the majority of Portuguese, conditions could ripen for a right-wing coup.

In the Portuguese colony of Timor, meanwhile, the Timor Democratic Union, one of the warring parties, wrote a letter to President Suharto expressing a wish to join Indonesia. (AP, UPI)

THE WORLD AT A GLANCE

Ethiopia to close U.S. base attacked by Eritrean rebels

ADDIS ABABA. — Ethiopia said Sunday an American communications base in Asmara which came under attack by Eritrean rebels will be closed down ahead of schedule.

The announcement was made by Brig-Gen Teferi Banti, the chairman of the provisional military government, who said the controversial Kagneb base would be closed down within a year.

The Ethiopian announcement apparently took the American government by surprise.

Washington considers the base an important point in its worldwide communications network and the U.S. understanding had been that American technicians would remain on the base until a 25-year agreement between the two countries expires in 1978.

Sources in the Ethiopian capital said the two countries were conferring now on the status of the base.

The base — actually a series of separate sites scattered around Asmara — increasingly became a target for Eritrean rebels. (A former Italian colony, Eritrea was annexed by Ethiopia in 1962.)

Friday, Eritrean secessionists attacked one compound about 12 kms. southwest of the city, damaged the facility and kidnapped two American technicians and six Ethiopians.

The guerrillas already hold two other American technicians they kidnapped from Kagneb July 14.

Yesterday, a spokesman for the Eritrean rebels threatened to kill the four Americans unless the U.S. stops supplying arms to the Ethiopian government.

The spokesman, in Beirut, said the Eritrean Liberation Front had transmitted four demands to Washington through the U.S. embassy in the Middle East. In addition to the arms ban the demands included:

- Dismantling the Kagneb base and an Ethiopian naval base under construction at Massawa, Ethiopia's chief port on the Eritrean coast.
- Compensation for areas of Eritrea that suffered heavy damage in attack by the U.S.-equipped Ethiopian air force during fighting between the rebels and the Ethiopian government last February.
- Government pressure on Ethiopia's military government to free all Eritrean rebels it holds.

The spokesman said questioning of two of the Americans in a mountain cave in northern Eritrea revealed "the dangerous role that Kagneb navy satellite tracking station is playing, not only against the Eritrean rebellion but also against the Arab nations and Africa's liberation movements." (UPI, AP)

Anti-IRA countess gets letter-bomb in London

LONDON (AP). — The Countess of Onslow, a central figure in an alleged spying operation against the IRA two years ago, was wounded yesterday when a letter she was opening exploded in her hands, Scotland Yard said.

The 59-year-old countess was rushed to hospital from her central London home with hand and facial injuries, but her condition was reported to be "not serious."

Another London letter-bomb exploded in the offices of the Canada-based Alcan Aluminum Company. A secretary was slightly hurt.

A spokesman said the bomb that injured Lady Onslow was hidden in a hollowed-out children's book.

"Luckily only the detonator on the charge exploded," he said.

The Countess was the go-between who arranged cloak-and-dagger meetings in 1973 between the then Army Minister, Geoffrey Johnson-Smith, and Kenneth Littlejohn, a bank robber who later claimed he was ordered to spy on the IRA by British intelligence.

The two letter-bombs were the first reported in British cities since a wave of murder-by-mail packages two years ago that was blamed on the IRA's "Provisional" wing. Several persons lost hands in explosions during that campaign, and a police spokesman said yesterday "These bombs are similar to the ones we had in 1973."

Madrid guard murdered

BARCELONA, Spain (AP). — An off-duty armed guard was stabbed and shot to death Sunday by three young men as Spain's campaign of violence continued despite five death sentences in the past two weeks for terrorism.

Juan Ruiz-Munoz, a para-military guard, was returning home after buying some cookies for his 10-year-old daughter, when he was attacked, eyewitnesses said. They said the three men had been seen in the neighbourhood for half-an-hour beforehand, apparently waiting for Ruiz-Munoz to pass.

Police said the three men attacked 49-year-old Ruiz-Munoz from behind. One of them held a pistol to his head while another stabbed him three times in the abdomen. Then, as he was falling, he was

shot twice in the head. Only last Friday, three youths were sentenced to death in Madrid for slaying an armed guard, and two Basques were given the same penalty in Burgos on August 28 for the murder of a civil guard.

Sunday's killing was the first since the Spanish government passed a new law, on August 27, "acts of terrorism." It provides for an automatic death sentence for anyone guilty of killing or mutilating a member of the security forces.

The government said it was taking stronger measures against violence because 21 persons, most of them security men, have been killed in more than 100 attacks. Sunday's death brought the total to 32.

Rembrandt masterpiece slashed

AMSTERDAM (AP). — Rembrandt's 17th century masterpiece "The Night Watch" was slashed and disfigured on Sunday by a Dutch teacher who fought off a museum guard in the assault and told bystanders that he had done it "for the Lord."

The assailant, a former mental patient, Wilhelmus de Rijk, 33, used a serrated kitchen knife.

The attack was carried out immediately after the Sunday afternoon opening of the Rijksmuseum. Officials said the man went directly to the spacious chamber where "The Night Watch" hangs, walked

straight to the painting and slashed at the lower centre section. A guard grabbed his arm, but the heavily built assailant held him off and moved across the masterpiece to the right slashing with the knife. He damaged it in more than a dozen places, leaving a section some seven feet wide severely defaced. Some knife marks were more than two feet long. In the centre section a piece of canvas measuring about 12 inches x 2 1/2 was ripped off.

Dr. P.J. Van Thiel, the museum's acting director, said it would take about four months to restore the painting, which measures about 14 feet by 11.

Amalrik's night in Moscow

MOSCOW. — Police detained dissident writer Andrei Amalrik overnight Saturday, then released him and gave him three days to leave Moscow. His offence: sleeping at his wife's apartment without a Moscow residence permit.

Amalrik, whose best known work is "Will the Soviet Union Survive

Until 1984?" said in July that Soviet authorities had ordered him to leave Moscow or face arrest. The author, who was released last May after five years of prison and exile, said Soviet officials were trying to force him to leave the country for Israel although he is not Jewish.

The Jacob Hiatt Institute of Brandeis University

announces a lecture by
Dr. Israel Goldstein

Zionist Vision and Israeli Reality:
A Personal Perspective
Wednesday, Sept. 17, at 5 p.m.
11 Rehov Pinsker, Jerusalem.



U.S. Vice-President Nelson Rockefeller and singer Pearl Bailey Heathrow Airport in London yesterday after arriving for last night opening of the American Bi-Centennial Exhibition at the British Museum. (AP radio photo)

Pope canonizes American saint

VATICAN CITY (UPI). — Elizabeth Ann Seton, a riches-to-rags New York debutante who founded the first U.S. order of Roman Catholic nuns, on Sunday became America's first native-born saint.

"Wholly American," Pope Paul VI called her during the two-hour canonization pagentry in which women took unprecedented roles. More than 100,000 persons crammed St. Peter's Square.

Elizabeth Ann Bayley was born into a New York City socialite family in 1774. At 19 she married William Seton, 26, scion of a prominent importing and shipping family which had the Alexander Hamiltons as neighbours and George Washington as a family friend.

But after several family tragedies including the death of her father and husband, she converted to Catholicism, became a nun and founded the Sisters of Charity.

Papua-N. Guinea gets self-rule

PORT MORESBY, Papua-New Guinea (AP). — The Australian flag was lowered for the last time in Papua-New Guinea yesterday in a ceremony marking the end of colonial rule.

Prince Charles of England, Australian Governor-General Sir John Kerr and Australian prime minister Gough Whitlam were at the dusk ceremony in the football stadium on the shore of Port Moresby harbour.

The government of Michael Somare took control at midnight to a 10-gun salute from Australian and New Zealand warships anchored off shore, as the red and black flag of Papua-New Guinea emblazoned with a golden bird of paradise was hoisted on newly named Independence Hill, formally marking independence for the nation's 2.6 million people.

Amnesty charges Soviet, S. Africa, Uganda, Spain

LONDON (AP). — The Soviet Union, South Africa, Spain and Uganda are violating human rights and torturing and executing political prisoners "on a disturbing scale," Amnesty International charged on Sunday.

The London-based organization, dedicated to the release of all political prisoners in the world, claimed in its annual report that altogether 107 countries violated human rights to some extent.

"Far too many nations of the world pay only lip service to human rights," Dirk Boerner, chairman of the executive committee of Amnesty International, said.

"They corruptly downgrade human rights into privileges," Boerner stressed that nearly all the countries cited in the report were signatories of the UN Declaration of Human Rights.

Amnesty teams visited 31 countries in the last year to investigate allegations of persecution and torture, observe trials and make representations to governments.

Olympic TV fee is settled

GENEVA (AP). — The European Broadcasting Union (EBU) yesterday announced a final agreement with Montreal organizers on television coverage for the 1976 summer Olympics outside North America.

The EBU said five regional TV groups from east and west Europe, Asia, Latin America and the Middle-East will together pay \$9.4m. for television rights. The Montreal group had originally demanded \$18m.

The months-long dispute had threatened to prevent TV coverage of the Olympics outside of North America. ABC-TV holds the rights for North America.

16 held after Corsica violence

AJACCIO, Corsica (AP). — police held 16 Corsican autonomists yesterday after a night of violence in which bands of youths batt with officers, threw incendiary bombs and damaged banks, a police office and shops.

Several of those arrested will be charged with looting.

The clashes began after about 3,000 autonomists, demanding greater home rule for the Mediterranean island from the French Government, paraded through Ajaccio Sunday. They called on the government to release autonomists held in connection with the death of a policeman in gun battles last month.

A number of policemen were injured, some seriously.

Mediterranean pollution

VALLETTA, Malta (AP). — Scientists will drop 100,000 plan-covered postcards into the Mediterranean in January to study pollution affects coastal waters. The project, was approved over weekend here at a UN-sponsored meeting on Mediterranean pollution which brought together scientists from 17 nations.

The waterproof postcards will be attached to floats and drift in same manner as oil slicks. They will bear a questionnaire in French, Arabic and English for world finders to answer and return.

48 die in bus plunge

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica (AP). — At least 48 persons died on Sunday when a bus plunged off a highway and sank in tidalwater near Pacific port city of Puntarenas, police said. They said the victim — 15 children, 11 men and women — drowned when the overturned and landed upside down with its wheels protruding from water.

THE NETHERLANDS INSURANCE COMPANY EST 1845 LTD.

General Agents in Israel "SOBIT" General Insurance Agency Ltd.

ABRIDGED STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1974

A. Abridged Statement of account of the Head Office

ABRIDGED BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1974

	£ — 1974	£ — 1973		£ — 1974	£ — 1973
Investments	204,023,413	354,330,922	Capital reserves and surplus	71,424,612	73,866,206
Fixed assets	12,229,065	44,058,085	Life insurance reserve	97,310,587	201,960,856
Other properties	75,285,866	82,073,051	General insurance outstanding liabilities reserve	38,248,249	74,031,571
			Outstanding claims	32,941,504	68,616,116
			Other liabilities	51,603,382	61,887,310
	291,538,334	480,462,068		291,538,334	480,462,068

ABRIDGED STATEMENTS OF ACCOUNT OF INSURANCE BUSINESS AND REVENUE AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1974

	£ — 1974	£ — 1973
Life insurance premiums		
General insurance premiums	21,054,275	33,674,984
Life insurance profit	53,238,986	126,017,108
General insurance profit	12,650	499,388
Income from investments, etc.	4,076,020	3,979,961
Less expenditure not shown in business accounts	6,012,654	3,830,012
Trading profit (before appropriations)	10,101,324	8,309,371

B. Figures on Trading in Israel

INSURANCE BUSINESS AND PROFIT FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1974

	IL — 1974	IL — 1973
Life insurance premiums and fees		
General insurance premiums and fees	1,916,430	1,967,842
Life insurance profit		
Loss on general insurance	415,919	40,900
Income from investments, less expenses not shown in business accounts	(2,921)	(37,579)
Trading loss	418,840	78,479

STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS IN ISRAEL AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1974

	IL — 1974	IL — 1973
Obligations in Israel		
Approved investments in Israel	2,469,138	1,606,534
Loss on investment in Israel	2,157,464	1,138,600
Non-approved investments in Israel	311,674	467,934
	459,766	283,257

Note:

- The complete, detailed financial statement, including the report of the auditors, and explanatory notes of the Management of the Company are available at the offices of the Company, 27 Rehov Montefiore, Tel Aviv.
- In accordance with the instructions of the Commissioner for Saving and Insurance Authority, interest accrues under General Insurance Trading Account. As a result of this income from interest, etc. in the Profit and Loss Account are showing a negative balance.
- These accounts are published pursuant to the Insurance Business Supervision Law 1951.

General Agents in Israel: "SOBIT" General Insurance Agency Ltd.
Head Office: 27 Montefiore St. Phone 292836. Tel Aviv.

GOLDA MEIR'S MEMOIRS

PART THREE

all the time, I waited anxiously for the moment when I could go home, though I already knew that the newly created Foreign Ministry, and particularly the new foreign minister, Moshe Sharett, had his plans for me. The day before I left for the States, Sharett and I sat in my hotel and he had spoken to me of the problems of managing the embassies and consulates that Israel would have to establish in those countries that had either already recognized her or were likely to do so within a few weeks.

"I have no time for Moscow," he said in a very worried voice. "Well, thank God, you can't offer it to me," I replied. "My Russian is almost nonexistent." As a matter of fact, that isn't what matters, he answered, but he didn't pursue the topic, and I tried to dismiss it as a good joke. Although I sometimes thought about the conversation when I was lying from one place to another in the States, I fervently hoped that Sharett himself had forgotten all about it.

One day, however, a cable came from Tel Aviv. I glanced at the signature before I read the text to make sure that it wasn't about Sarah Menachem (already with his brigade and in combat). But when I saw the name "Moshe," I knew that it was about Moscow and I had to read myself to read the message. The State was not even a month old. The war was not over. The children were not safe yet. I had a family and dear friends in Israel, and it seemed to me that it was grossly unfair to ask me to pack my bags again so soon and take off for such a remote and essentially unknown post. "Why is it always me?" I thought, in a burst of self-pity. There are plenty of other people who could do the job as well, better in fact. And Russia, of all places, the country I had left as a little girl and of which I had not a single pleasant memory. At least in America I was doing something real, concrete and practical, but what did I know or care about diplomacy? Of all my comrades, I was surely the least suited to diplomatic life. But I also knew that Sharett must have secured Ben-Gurion's consent to the appointment, and Ben-Gurion was certainly not likely to be swayed by any personal appeals. And then there was the matter of discipline. Who was I to disobey or even demur at a time when each day brought news of fresh casualties? One's duty was one's duty - and it had nothing to do with justice. So what if I longed to be in Israel? Other people longed for their children to be alive or whole again. So after a few more cables and telephone calls, I answered Sharett's cable, not very enthusiastically but affirmatively. "When I get back to Israel, I will try to persuade Moshe and Ben-Gurion that they have made a mistake," I promised myself. At the end of the first week of June, however, my appointment as Israel's minister to Moscow was made public.

I took a day off to see old friends in New York and say good-bye to new ones. I was determined to visit Fanny and Jacob Goodman before I left. Neither the children nor I had ever lost touch with them, and I thought it would cheer me up to spend an hour or two with them, telling them about Sarah and Zechariah, and Sheyna's children, whom they hadn't seen for so long. But I never got to their house after all. On the way to Brooklyn, a car crashed into my cab, and the next thing I knew I had a badly fractured leg enveloped in a gigantic plaster cast and my address for the next few weeks was neither Moscow nor Tel Aviv but the New York Hospital for Joint Diseases! Looking back at the times and at my mood, I think that nothing (including the blessing of the phlebotomy and blood clots I developed) could have kept me in that hospital had it not been for the fact that on 11 June the fighting had temporarily ended in Israel.

By 11 June, the progress of the Arab invasion had been halted. The Egyptian attempt to conquer Tel Aviv and Jerusalem had failed, though the Jordanians were still battering away at Jerusalem from the east and the north, and the Jewish Quarter of the Old City had fallen to Abdullah's Arab Legion. The Syrians, though their advance in the north had been stopped, still held a bridgehead on the Jordan River, and the Iraqis were still poised against the very narrowest part of the country in Samaria. The United Nations had been trying for weeks to impose a truce, but as long as they had some hope of defeating Israel, the Arabs were not at all interested. However, as soon as it became quite clear to them, as well as to us, that this was not about to happen, they agreed to a ceasefire - to the first truce, which was to last for twenty-eight days and give us a chance to rest, rally, and plan the major offensives that in July removed the last threats to Tel Aviv and the coastal plain, lifted the siege on Jerusalem and destroyed all of the major Arab bases in Galilee.

So in theory, pain or no pain, I might have caught my breath a bit in the hospital - both physically and emotionally - but actually I was under enormous pressure there all the time. To begin with, there were the television cameras and the newspapermen. A woman ambassador to Moscow would have been a novelty in any case in 1948, but a woman minister to Moscow who represented the tiny embattled State of Israel and who was totally immobilized in New York must have been a real bargain. I suppose I could have refused to be interviewed - and today, of course, that is just what I would do under such circumstances.

Immediately after the proclamation of the state, Golda Meir was summoned urgently to the U.S. to help raise \$50 million for desperately needed arms. Reluctantly, but with no choice, she left the newly created Israel on the first available plane. In this instalment from her autobiography she tells how her ardent desire to return and remain in Israel was deflected by Moshe Sharett, who had other plans for her.

Preparing for a 'kibbutz' in Moscow

But at that time I thought it would be good for Israel if we got a lot of publicity, and I felt that I mustn't turn down a single request from the press - though the various members of the family, especially Clara, were absolutely appalled by the three-ring circus going on in my room.

What was much worse, though, was the pressure I was under to get to Moscow. I was literally bombarded with cables from Israel. "When can you leave New York?" "When can you take over?" "How do you feel?" Rumours had spread in Israel that this was a "diplomatic" illness and that nothing was really wrong with me except that I didn't want to go to Russia. But as if this disgusting whispering campaign were not bad enough, there were also indications that the Soviet government itself was offended by my supposed "malingering", which was "actually" a tactic designed to delay the exchange of ministers so that the US ambassador to Israel could arrive first and thus become doyen of the diplomatic corps. All this was something which I had to take very seriously, regardless of my state of health. So there was nothing I could do except start tormenting my doctors for permission to leave the hospital. It was, need I say, the wrong thing to have done. I should have remained in New York until I was completely well. Both our Foreign Office and the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs would have survived without me for a few more weeks, and I would have spared myself a great deal of misery and at least one operation later on. But one of the penalties of public office is that one loses one's sense of proportion in certain respects, and I was convinced that there would be some kind of terrible crisis unless I turned up in Moscow as soon as possible.

In between rushing around to party meetings, being briefed about the Soviet Union and making plans for our departure, I concentrated on thinking about the kind of representation that Israel should have in the Soviet Union. How did we want to show ourselves abroad? What did we want the world in general and the USSR in particular to think about Israel? What sort of state were we in the process of creating and how could we best reflect its quality? The more I thought about it, the less I thought that our legations should mimic those of other countries. Israel was small, poor and still at war. Her government was still a provisional government (the first elections to the Knesset took place only in January 1949), but the majority of its members would certainly represent the Labour movement. The face we turned to the world, I was convinced, needed no make-up at all. We had established a pioneering state in a sorely beleaguered country devoid of natural resources or any wealth, a state to which hundreds of thousands of DPs - who also had nothing - were already streaming in the hope of making a new life for themselves. If we wanted to be understood and respected by other states, we would have to be abroad what we were at home. Lavish entertaining, grand apartments, conspicuous consumption of any kind was not for us. Austerity, modesty and a sense of our own worth and purpose were what we had to offer, and anything else would be false.

There was something at the back of my mind all the time that I was thinking along these lines, and then one day I found it. The legation in Moscow would be run in the most typically Israeli style I knew: like a kibbutz. We would work together, eat together, get the same amount of pocket money and take turns doing whatever chores had to be done. As in Merhavia or Revivim, people would do the work that they were trained for and suited to in the opinion of our Foreign Office, but the spirit of the legation, its atmosphere and flavour would be that of a collective settlement - which, apart from any other consideration, ought, I believed, to be especially attractive to the Russians (not that their own brand of collectivism was or is anything to write home about). We were to be twenty-six people in all, including Sarah, Zechariah and myself, and the legation's counsellor, Mordechai Namir, a widower who brought his fifteen-year-old daughter, Yael, with him. (Namir afterwards served as Israel's ambassador to the USSR, then as minister of labour and for ten years as mayor of Tel Aviv.) As my personal assistant, I chose a most charming woman, Eiga Shapiro, who not only spoke Russian but also knew much more about the niceties of life than I did and who could be entrusted, I was sure, with such (to me terrifying) missions as deciding what furniture and clothing legation personnel and the minister would need.

Even before I returned to Tel Aviv, I wrote to Eiga to ask her to join me - if and when I indeed went to Moscow - and to my delight she agreed at once. One of the notes she sent to New York at the end of June is before me now, and it tells something, I think, of what was involved in sending a woman to a top diplomatic post - particularly a woman like myself who was so determined to live in Russia in much the same way she lived at home.

"I have had a talk with Ehud," Eiga wrote. "He tells me that we shall have to be very *comme il faut*. So please, Golda, what about a fur coat for yourself? It is very cold in the place to which you are travelling, and most people there wear fur coats in the winter. You need not buy yourself mink, but a good Persian lamb will be very serviceable... You will also need a few evening dresses, and buy yourself woollies - warm nightgowns, woollen stockings and woollen underwear. And please get yourself a pair of good snow shoes."

The question of dress was obviously not uppermost in my mind, but for a while I regretted that we had no national costume - which would have solved at least one problem for me, as it did for Mrs Pandit, the only other woman diplomat in Moscow, who wore her sari, of course, on all ceremonial occasions. In the end, Eiga and I agreed that when I presented my credentials, I would wear a long black dress sewn for me in Tel Aviv and that, when necessary, I would wear a small black velvet turban with it. As far as furnishing the legation was concerned, Eiga undertook to do that in Scandinavia as soon as we found permanent accommodation in Moscow. In the interim, we would establish our 'kibbutz' in a hotel. There was also the question of finding and taking with us to Russia someone whose French was absolutely perfect, since it had been decided that French would be Israel's diplomatic language. Eiga introduced me to a bright, amusing, painfully thin young woman called Lou Kaddar, who was born in Paris, whose French was beyond reproach and who had lived in Jerusalem all through the siege and had been badly wounded. I liked her the moment I set eyes on her - and it was just as well that I did, because for the better part of the next twenty-seven years Lou was my close friend, my indispensable assistant and, more often than not, my travel companion. At all events, she agreed to go with us to Russia.

I stayed in Israel long enough that summer to welcome the first US ambassador to Israel, that delightfully frank and warm gentleman James G. McDonald, whom I had met before, and to meet the Russian minister, Pavel I. Yershov. It was typical of the newness of the state - and of its lack of proper housing - that the American and Soviet missions in Tel Aviv made their first home in the same hotel, not far from mine, and I never quite got used to seeing the Stars and Stripes fly from one end of the hotel roof and the Hammer and Sickle from the other. There were all sorts of 'incidents' during the first weeks of this 'co-existence'. I remember, for instance, a 'gala' performance of the Israel National Opera at which the orchestra opened with first the 'Haitiknah' and then, in McDonald's honour, the 'Star-Spangled Banner' but not the 'Internationale', though Yershov's counsellor was present - at least until the intermission, when he and his party rather noisily walked out. Everyone in our Foreign Office was reduced to trembling in his boots until Yershov himself agreed to accept our explanation that, had he been there, the Soviet anthem would have certainly been played. Today, these minor disasters seem funny, but at the time we all took them very seriously. Nothing ever appeared unimportant to us, and Sharett, by nature, was both exacting and sensitive to a remarkable degree and felt - as did the Russians themselves, by the way - that protocol was of the utmost importance, though I could never see why it mattered so much.

A second truce began on 19 July, signalling the start of a long, painful round of negotiations over the Negev which Count Folke Bernadotte, the Swedish UN mediator, recommended be handed over to the Arabs. Considering the fact that he was really a referee, his position was amazingly lacking in neutrality, and he became extremely unpopular - particularly when he added insult to injury by advocating also that Jerusalem be torn away from the Jewish state and that the UN supervise Israel's air and sea ports. God knows that these recommendations were unacceptable and that they proved only that Bernadotte really never understood what the State of Israel was all about. But it is certainly no crime to be obtuse, and I was horrified when, on 7 September, only two weeks after I arrived in Moscow, I learned that Bernadotte had been shot to death on a quiet street in Jerusalem (although his assailants were never identified, we knew it would be assumed that they were Jews). I thought the end of the world had come, and I would have given anything to have been able to fly home and be there during the ensuing crisis. But by then I was already deeply involved in a totally new and very demanding way of life.

Copyright Golda Meir, from her book "My Life." By arrangement with Weidenfeld and Nicolson and The Sunday Telegraph. The next instalment appears in The Post on Friday.

Legal blow for Gandhi

NEW DELHI (AP). - A Delhi high court, overturning the jailing of a prominent journalist, dealt the first legal blow yesterday to the Indian Government's sweeping emergency powers to imprison persons without charges and without trial.

The decision by a two-man tribunal represented a double defeat for Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's government, not only ruling that the arrest of Kuldip Nayyar, a senior editor, was unlawful, but also chiding authorities for their handling of the case.

"This is an landmark decision in Indian law which will have an electrifying effect on the political situation," said an attorney for jailed opposition leader Raj Narain.

"With this decision hundreds of jailed prisoners can seek their release on the grounds they were unjustly detained. It's a great rebuff to the government."

The judges' ruling had no impact on Nayyar, a senior editor of the "Indian Express" and correspondent for "The Times" of London, who was released unconditionally on Friday - two days after hearings ended on his petition challenging his detention.

Ford refuses to end moratorium on Soviet grain

WASHINGTON (AP). - President Ford declined after meeting with American Farm Organization leaders yesterday to end an informal moratorium on grain sales to the Soviet Union.

Ford met for 45 minutes with President William Kuhfuss of the American Farm Bureau Federation in what was described as a "very frank discussion." Kuhfuss and other farm organization leaders have complained that Ford sold out to U.S. labour unions in extending the grain sales moratorium until at least October 15.

Last week, AFL-CIO president George Meany and maritime unions called off a boycott of grain shipments after Ford promised to seek "a new procedure" for future sales to the Russians. Meany had urged direct government-to-government negotiations for Russian grain purchases.

Kuhfuss said he sought the meeting with Ford to persuade him that American farmers are not to blame for the rising price of bread and meat, and to tell the President of his belief that labour unions represent "a selfish interest." "I was not completely satisfied," Kuhfuss said of the meeting with Ford.

Famous car firm goes bankrupt

LONDON (UPI). - Jensen Motors, makers of Britain's most luxurious sports cars, said yesterday that it was bankrupt, and called in the Official Receiver.

The company, whose 600 workers made each of its £11,500 cars individually, said that labour problems was one of the four factors that broke the firm.

Inflation, the oil crisis and the excessive demands of meeting exhaust emission control in the U.S. and other foreign markets also contributed.

"A vociferous minority (of employees) have achieved some success in disrupting the efforts of a basically loyal and hard-working team."

Jensen's best-known model was its interceptor. The Duke of Edinburgh owned one.

Tea-mile record

ARNHEM, The Netherlands (UPI). - Dutch long-distance runner Jos Hermes set a new 10-mile track record on Sunday, covering the distance in 45 min. 57.6 sec.

The previous record was held by Belgium's Willy Polleunis, who clocked 46:04.2 in September 1972.

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DEPARTURES: El Al 133 to Nairobi and Johannesburg, 01:55; TWA 849 to Athens, Rome, Paris and Chicago, 05:00; El Al 563 to Tehran, 05:00; TWA 811 to Rome, Paris and London, 05:00; El Al 347 to Zurich, 05:00; El Al 001 to N.Y., 08:00; KLM 628 to Amsterdam, 08:00; El Al 337 to Amsterdam, 08:00; Air France 134 to Lyons and Paris, 08:00; El Al 481 to Paris, 08:00; B.A. 1435 to London, 08:00; TWA 801 to Paris and N.Y., 08:00; El Al 385 to Rome, 10:15; Alitalia 795 to Rome, 10:15; Austrian 714 to Vienna, 10:15; Lufthansa 633 to Munich and Frankfurt, 10:15; El Al 541 to Athens, 10:15; THY 997 to Istanbul, 10:15; Air France 192 to Tehran, Delhi, Bangkok and Hong Kong, 10:15; Taron 344 to Bucharest, 10:15; Cyprusair 303 to Larnaca, 10:15.

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Uganda's unknown Jewish community

AMIN's hostile attitude to Jews has resulted in the severing of all contacts with Ugandan Jews. Actually, the fact that there are Jews in Uganda will come as a surprise to most people, especially when it turns out that they are black Africans.

The fascinating story of this "unknown" community is told in "El-Tututot ha-Gola" published by the World Zionist Organisation, by Dr. Aryeh Shatz, of Tel Aviv University, who "discovered" the group during the 1960s when he was studying in Uganda.

The community calls itself the "Yudaya" ("Jews") and lives in a former kingdom of Buganda. This part of the world a number of Christian splinter groups were active in the early 19th century, and the Bayudaya an offshoot of one of these groups. Their founder was one of the great heroes and leaders of Buganda, Semai Kakungulu, whose legendary exploits have been commemorated in no less than ten biographies (all of which virtually ignore his Jewishness). He led the Buganda army to impressive victories over its neighbours. Leading the Christian forces he succeeded in overwhelming the Muslims and then overcame the Catholics with his Protestant forces.

Circumcised He was also a key figure in laying the way for British rule over Uganda, but he soured on the British when they refused to make him a king. He then gave up his military activities and turned to religious interests. His reading of the Old Testament prompted him to literal observance of its commandments. He was circumcised and himself circumcised his sons whom he named Yuda Makebe (no translation needed), Nimrod, Ibrahim and Israel. The act of circumcision was particularly important as his tribe forbade any bodily mutilation. However, he persuaded his own followers to follow him, and wrote a book of laws and prayers (his copy of the Bible contained both Old and New Testaments, some of the

prayers were drawn from the latter).

It was in the middle of the 1920s when he and his group first encountered a Jew — a man called Joseph (no one is certain of where he came from, where he went to or even his family name). Joseph stayed a number of weeks with the tribe and instructed them in Judaism. As a result they ceased all belief in the New Testament, became ardent Sabbath observers, recited Jewish blessings and prayers, covered their heads in prayer and ceased to baptise their children. Joseph also taught them the laws of ritual slaughter which they henceforth meticulously observed. They gave Hebrew names to the months and observed all feasts and fasts. From Joseph they also learned the Hebrew alphabet.

Semai Kakungulu died in 1928 when the group had 2,000 members — and there was no report of them ever having reached further than their immediate neighbourhood. He had laid the organizational framework of the community with a leader, a priest (who was the religious authority) and teachers, responsible for the education of the children.

The centre of their religious life is a central synagogue — a miserable building on top of a hill, which they call the Moses Synagogue (it was long-called the Jewish Church, until they learnt the difference between a church and a synagogue). It contains no ark or Scroll of the Law (none of them have ever seen such things) and their holiest book is a printed Bible. Outside the synagogue are bowls of water in which they wash their feet and hands before praying (barefoot). On weekdays they pray at home but on Sabbath they go to synagogue. The last time Dr. Oded visited the Moses Synagogue, the congregation numbered 300 (and there are other synagogues). The men sit on one side; the women on the other. Apart from prayers and Bible readings, they have

recently incorporated the recitation of Maimonides' Thirteen Principles of the Faith into the service. They have never seen a tefillin, but Dr. Oded gave them a tallit which is now worn by the prayer leader. He also sent them mezuzot, now holding places of honour in many of their homes. They face Jerusalem in prayer and keep the festivals — on Sukkot, they build their sukkah, on Passover, they eat unleavened bread, and so on.

Fertile land Most of them are engaged in agriculture on lands that belonged to Kakungulu. Their principal crops are coffee, cotton and bananas; the land is fertile and by Ugandan standards their economic situation is good.

After the death of Kakungulu commenced a long period of deterioration in the position and size of the group, partly due to the lack of a strong leadership. Some of the adherents returned to the local religion, others to Christianity (under the impact of the missionaries who have been very active in the area). Another recent blow has been the impact of state education. In addition, there was a rapid growth in out-marriages, contrasted with the early period when members of the group took care only to enter into marriage with one another. In addition, the isolation of the group and the complete absence of contact with any outside Jewry (in contrast to the situation of the Christians) had its effect and by the early 1960s the size of the community had dropped to 300.

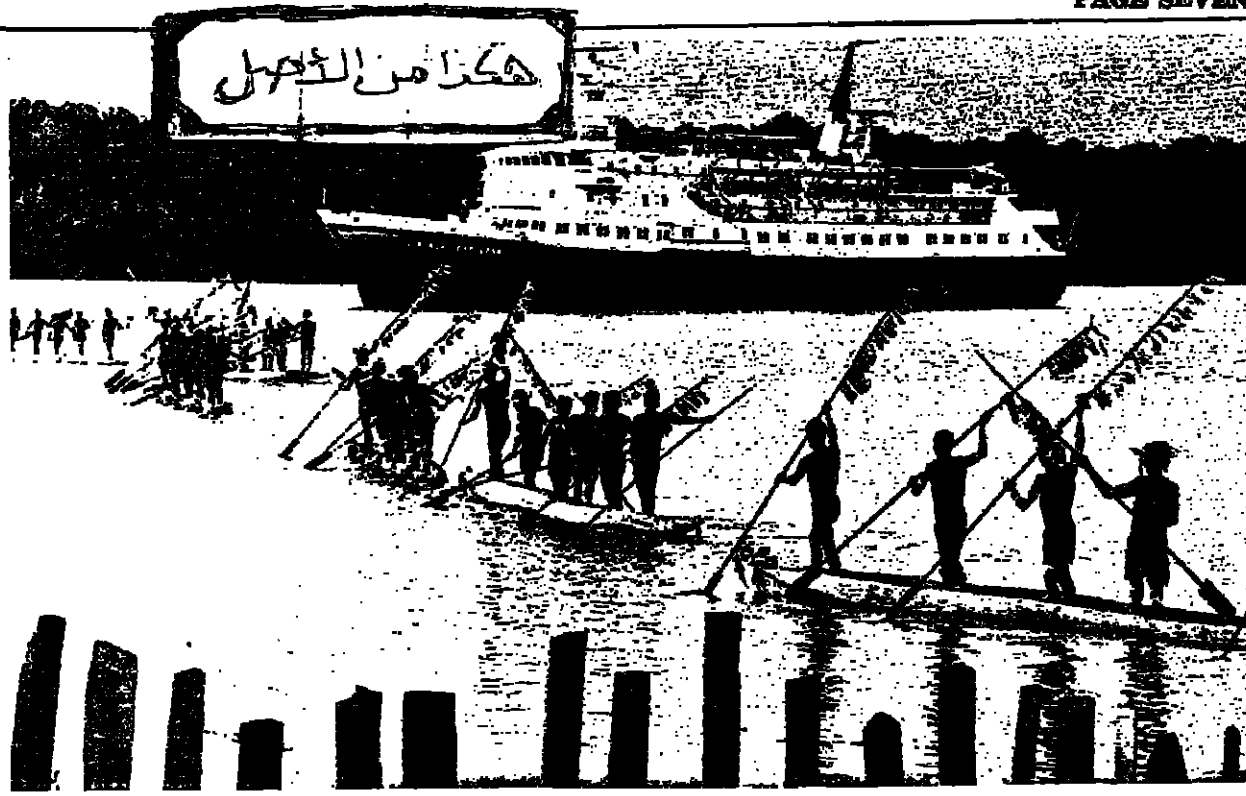
Dr. Oded put them in touch with certain outside bodies, notably the Society for the Propagation of Judaism, which sent them some modest help. It also offered to bring one of their members to Jerusalem to study Judaism, but the authorities would not let him out of Uganda (this was at a time of tension with the Bugandans). However, the 1960s saw a considerable revival, under the present leader, Samson Mugemba Israeli. Some of the former

members have returned and the group has also gained converts (all former Christians) so that today it numbers about 1,000. It is recognized by the government as an official religious sect, is allowed to collect dues and in official documents is designated "The Propagation of Judaism in Uganda — Moses Synagogue."

Dr. Oded concludes by calling them a unique phenomenon (although it may be suggested that the Falashas began in a very similar way). They eagerly want help from Jewish organizations abroad (once they did receive a gift of \$100 to repair the synagogue), especially for their spiritual requirements. Israel is for them a religious centre but they have no intention to live in Israel and see themselves as Ugandan Jews. Uganda is their native land to which they owe allegiance and where they wish to make their lives and those of their children. Unfortunately, nothing has been heard of them or from them in recent years as communication is impossible, and their most recent fate is unknown.

Among the other events of the year: The Jewish community at Asmara was evacuated in its entirety when fighting erupted in Eritrea (which has a Moslem majority) and were moved to Addis Ababa. The Swedish community celebrated its 200th anniversary with a service attended by the King of Sweden. Forty-five Jews — a record — were elected to the British parliament while in the U.S. there are now three Jewish Senators and 21 Representatives in Congress (and the new U.S. attorney-general, Edward H. Levi, is the son of a famous rabbinic family).

Negatively, there were a number of financial scandals ranging from the Tibor Rosenbaum complex to U.S. nursing homes in which Jews were prominently involved. In general Jews tended to be badly hit by financial developments during the year and against this background the continuing high support for Israel is especially remarkable.



A welcoming delegation of West Irian tribesmen paddle out in their war canoes to greet a cruise ship on a visit to Western New Guinea. (Unipix)

Breakaway movements threaten Papua-New Guinea's independence

By GWYNNE DYER
Special to the Jerusalem Post

LONDON. — PAPUA-NEW GUINEA, which gets its independence from Australia today, is suffering an embarrassment of riches: two major breakaway movements, and several smaller ones.

The country suffers unfairly from an image as the last redoubt of the Old Stone Age. There are some groups in the Highlands who do fit that bill, more or less, but most of the population were not startlingly more primitive than elsewhere in the area when European colonizers first arrived about 70 years ago. A considerable portion of the coastal peoples of PNG, (as Papua-New Guinea is called locally) is now semi-civilized and within the money economy.

PNG is not very rich, and it has a very shallow pool of trained people, but its main problem is fragmentation: its 2½ million people speak about 700 different languages and dialects. The multitude of tribes live scattered over extraordinarily difficult terrain in some 10,000 villages, and the most common inter-tribal feeling is hatred. In these circumstances breakaway movements are inevitable: it is PNG's misfortune that one, in Bougainville, should threaten to take about half the national income with it, and the other, in Papua, to make away with the national capital of Port Moresby.

One of the main grievances of the Papuan separatist leader Josephine Abaijah is that New Guinea immigrants to the capital "have made Port Moresby a destitute New Guinea colony." This is part of a more general Papuan fear that after independence they will be dominated and swamped by New Guinea, with twice the population. Just over two years ago it led to the foundation of Papua Besena (Papua Movement) by the ornamental Ms. Abaijah, a 33-year-old Member of Parliament and a formidable demagogue, and almost im-

mediately after to a savage three-day bout of anti-New Guinea rioting in Port Moresby.

In January of this year the Papuan separatists formed an interim republican government in Port Moresby, headed by Mr. Simon Kaumi (a senior civil servant until dismissed recently for anti-government activities) and Ms. Abaijah. Kaumi announced that a "Papuan Republic Fighters' Army" was being formed, and added: "I cannot say where the arms are coming from, but arrangements have been made." He then went into hiding but is believed to have surfaced deep in the Papuan bush, where his 200-strong, crudely-equipped "army" is based. So far as is known Kaumi's 200 heroes are still grubbing for roots round Pongopeta, bothering no-one and being disturbed by no-one.

BOUGAINVILLE is an island some 500 miles north-east of PNG proper that, but for an accident of colonial history, would be a part of the Solomon Islands to which it belongs culturally and geographically. Its 87,000 inhabitants, the blackest people on earth and proud of it, refer to the inhabitants of PNG as "redskins," and want nothing to do with them. They have an added incentive for independence in the immensely rich copper mine at Panguna, which promises by itself to surpass the output of all Zambia.

For some time the provincial government in Bougainville has been in the hands of separatists. At the beginning of August, 37 leaders from all over the island met in the self-appointed, rebel Bougainville Provincial Assembly and decided to make a break for independence before September 16.

Australia's Labour government will do its best to ensure an orderly, decorous ending to its embarrassing colonial career, which requires that it hand over power intact. After that PNG, as an independent state, will have the whole weight of the Third World's anti-secessionist phobia behind it at the UN and elsewhere.

It will, therefore, probably survive the secessionist threats. Predictions that independence will turn the country into "Asia's Congo" seem misplaced (unless the Papuan movement has unexpected success, leading to a total breakdown in public order). The government in Port Moresby, though youthful and relatively inexperienced, appears to be competent and politically alert.

Actual poverty is rare in PNG, and long-term prospects for development, based mainly on mining and agriculture, are quite good if the state holds together. Its prospects are just as good as most of the other hundred states that have got their independence in the past twenty years, and a good deal better than some.

CINEMA

Banal and boring sex-comedy

ALFIE DARLING (Maxim, Tel Aviv), is a far cry indeed from the amusing and refreshing 1966 "Alfie," which starred Michael Caine as the Cockney Casanova who charmed all the girls. Unfortunately this new film is a sub-standard, tasteless British sex-comedy, as banal as it is boring. Ken Hughes directed and wrote the screenplay, based on Bill Naughton's book of the same name.

Singer-composer Alan Price ("O Lucky Man") plays the title role — a long-distance lorry driver with "birds" waiting all along the route just for the privilege of being able to

climb into bed with him. His philosophy regarding girls — which he imparts directly to the audience from time to time in an annoying device — revolves round the theory that "the more you respect them, the less they like you."

The filmst of plots is matched by inane dialogue and juvenile humour while the ending is both contrived and melodramatic. Yet, unlikely as it may sound, Price plays his part with relish and even manages to render the hero a rather likeable character. Otherwise, "Alfie Darling" has really nothing to recommend it.

JACK LEON

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Israeli real estate business 'booming'

By ARTHUR KEMELMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The real estate business in Israel is booming, according to one leading real estate broker here. David Blumberg, head of the Anglo Saxon Realty Company, told The Jerusalem Post that the business at Anglo Saxon was "fantastic," representing a forty per cent increase over the company's best year, which was in fiscal year 1973-74, following the Yom Kippur War. If the present trend should continue, 1974-75 should see the company grossing \$1.5m, as compared to 1973's \$1.2m.

Mr. Blumberg attributed the increase to a stabilized market which is attractive to both buyers and sellers, where deals can be made without the constant fear of sudden changes of opinion by either party in the belief that greater profits could be made or substantial savings obtained. Nowadays, Mr. Blumberg pointed out, the Israeli real estate market is conducting itself in a healthy manner, like other markets around the world.

He pointed out that Government economic policy and the drop in prices to tourists were responsible for the stabilization of the market. Sales to tourists, he noted, were down 30-40 per cent. But this, he said, was offset by local sales. Land prices, in contrast to those of apartments, were down. Land bought for speculation purposes was down by some 50 per cent, while good and such as the unparcelled land of Pochut Lamed was down in price by some 14 per cent.

The cooling-down of the real estate

market has also led to an improvement in the buildings under construction. The contractor, Mr. Blumberg said, is being forced to pay more attention to the standard of his apartments as well as their plan.

Mr. Simcha Ben Shaul, general manager of Israelom, which deals primarily in sales to tourists, said that in the past few months there has been an increase of about 30 per cent in sales over the earlier part of the year. Prices, however, have already been steady over the past 8 months. He felt that the quietness of the security situation was partly responsible for this growth. In dollars, sales by Israelom are reaching about \$1m. a month, and contrary to previous years, the sales are not of a speculative nature, but for the purpose of acquiring a foothold in Israel.

Mr. Paul Kohn, an independent real estate agent in Herzliya Pituah, primarily dealing in villas, told The Jerusalem Post that in the Herzliya area prices were down but that the prices of villas were still holding firm due to a scarcity on the market, a result of the Government's building freeze of some months back. A four bedroom villa in Herzliya Pituah, on a half a dunam, today sells for IL700,000-900,000, he said.

Mr. Kohn said that the number of foreign clients had been reduced over the months. However, with the Government's devaluation last November, followed by the mini-devaluations, real estate agents are hoping that the foreign buyer will find his dollars have greater purchasing power, he explained. Agents are also hopeful that the interim agreement will spur a new confidence in Israel as a place for investment.

JAPAN'S GIANT BANKS COME UNDER FIRE

TOKYO. —

AS SHOCK WAVES from Japan's biggest post-war financial failure spread through Government and business circles, criticism is mounting against the uncontrolled power of Japan's giant banks. There are also fears of further major business failures before the new year.

"When Rolls-Royce collapsed in England, and Penn Central in America, we said complacently that it could never happen here. But now it has," says Masayoshi Inayama, economist at one of Tokyo's leading banks. His comment typifies the reaction among Tokyo's business community to the collapse of the Kohjin paper and textile group. Once hailed as a model of successful diversification, with annual sales of more than \$32m. (almost IL2b.) and 3,200 employees, the company has just revealed a shortfall of \$56m. (about IL8.5b.) and applied for the protection of the courts to avoid liquidation.

Kohjin's failure has in some ways been a blessing to the business community, which has been meeting strong Government resistance to its demands for more generous refinancing measures. Government economists have opposed the demands because of fears that further reflation would spark off higher inflation, which the Japanese Government has successfully contained for the last eight months.

The collapse has added considerable muscle to the businessmen's demands, and muted the criticisms of consumer groups pressing for stricter controls on business. The consumer movement has already suffered one major set-

back this year when a proposed anti-monopoly Bill giving the Government wide powers over industrial cartels was shelved.

While the reasons for Kohjin's collapse are apparent, one important question has not yet been answered: why did three of Tokyo's major banks continue lending money to the company for more than a year after they discovered that it was in serious trouble?

But most of the Japanese business community is more worried about the possibility of further collapses. Japanese companies traditionally operate on huge debt-equity ratios, and recent surveys show that more than a third of the companies quoted on the Tokyo stock market are currently operating at a loss. In a rare moment of frankness, an executive of one major Tokyo bank suggested after the Kohjin failure that if all banks applied the same criteria as applied to Kohjin when reviewing their lending, another 20 major companies could be in great trouble before the end of the year. (Ofis).

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Challenge to Sadat

THE PLO yesterday carried its challenge to Anwar Sadat and his leadership of the Arab world a giant and violent step further.

Sadat for his part lost no time in pinning responsibility directly and specifically on Yasser Arafat "and his PLO," although, as is PLO custom, the terrorist organization did not itself immediately claim responsibility for the Madrid action. Sadat's alacrity contrasted sharply to his actions in the past, when he played along with the PLO shell game and declined to acknowledge their responsibility for terrorist actions which they did not publicly claim.

Apart from the challenge to his authority, prestige and policy, Sadat is, no doubt, sorely vexed by the attack of an organization which he has been so instrumental in promoting. For, the fact is that without Sadat's support the PLO and Yasser Arafat would not have been able to achieve their present status in the Arab world. It was, after all, Sadat, who despite occasional reconciliations with King Hussein, supported Arafat in his contest with the Jordanian king. Without the backing of the Egyptian President there would have been no decision at Rabat in October 1974 stamping the PLO as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinians. And without Sadat there would have been no Arafat speech at the last UN General Assembly.

And now it must be said too, that without Sadat's support in the past there would today be no PLO resisting Egyptian policy and branding the Egyptian President as an "enemy." For it was he who consistently stressed their right to take part in the process of trying to achieve a Middle East settlement. As recently as his phone conversation with President Ford, upon the conclusion of the interim agreement in Sinai, Sadat went so far as to publicly urge the U.S. to start a dialogue with the PLO.

Now he is reaping the seeds he has sown and must confront the fact that the threat posed by the politics of terror is indivisible.

What he will do to retaliate against the PLO for the Madrid action is not clear. But he has large scope for leverage. Without Sadat's backing the treasuries of Saudi Arabia and the oil sheikdoms would not be so generously disposed toward Arafat and his fellows. And to the degree that it was Sadat who enhanced the image and power of the PLO, so it is within his power to cut the PLO to size.

That would be an action which would be welcomed not only in many parts of the world, but in many Arab countries as well.

ONE OF Labour's top organisational keymen predicts that Labour will lose several Knesset seats in the next general elections, unless the party carries out a thorough internal overhaul first.

Dov Ben-Meir, secretary of the powerful Tel Aviv district in the party, notes that in the 1969 and 1973 elections together, Labour lost a total of 13 Knesset seats. The seats which it is in danger of losing next time, he believes, may not necessarily go to the Likud bloc, but to the smaller lists where their impact will be wasted.

Ben-Meir told *The Post* that in his view Labour must give priority to attracting thinking citizens, who are drifting away from the post-1973 protest groups.

"Not a week goes by without a score of people coming to us and asking us if we can give them something useful to do in Labour," Ben-Meir revealed. "Several of their circle who got fed up with protest, have given up activity entirely. Others used to sympathise with Labour, and they're coming back. But we won't be able to hold them, unless Labour's entire structure is renovated."

Ben-Meir insists that elections to the Labour Party Central Committee and other representative bodies must be organised on a regional basis only. Thus the first rung in the ladder of the party hierarchy would be anchored firmly in the party branches, so that Labour's future leaders would have to work hard and win recognition from their peers.

Ben-Meir aroused Golda Meir's anger, when she headed Labour, by his protests that retired generals were being "parachuted" to positions of power, thus delaying the advancement of loyal party keymen. Ben-Meir charged that the party leadership deliberately made room for top Army men, in order to keep the serving generals in harmony with Labour policies.

In his opinion, the post-1973 protest movements are losing their grip on their sympathisers.

Wanted: A dynamic Labour Party

Israel's Labour Party must reorganise its internal structure to generate new ideas, says DOV BEN-MEIR, secretary of the powerful Tel Aviv district in the party. He wants the party to be abreast of its leaders, forcing them to thrash out problems well before they become critical, he told Jerusalem Post Knesset Reporter ASHER WALLFISH.

because change in Israel is impossible from outside the establishment. "BG and Dayan had a lot in their favour when they tried to go it alone, in Rafi. But they failed. And others weaker than they will fail too."

"Israel's establishment is one of the most strongly-knit and concentrated in any democracy," Ben-Meir asserts. "Most Israelis are, or were for many years, dependent on the establishment in one of its manifestations or another. If they're not, in fact, dependent on the powers-that-be then they feel that they are."

"Many Israelis, as individuals, are unsure of their physical safety and so they want to cling to some larger institution for security. That gives the establishment influence over them. The establishment also enjoys constant accretions of strength because it directs a capital inflow which has no parallel. Finally, most Israelis immigrated here during the past generation, and so they experienced and got used to dependent status for one period or another."

DOV BEN-MEIR wants the Labour Party to create an internal climate and structure which would generate new ideas. He wants the Party to be abreast of its leaders, forcing them to thrash out problems well before

they become critical, and not ask the party's eleventh hour approval after having already committed it in advance.

"In a dynamic Labour party, strategic topics would also be open to debate," he says. "People would discuss the pros and cons of constructing a 'hard' defence line in the Sinai, in the light of what they conceive to be this country's most advantageous military doctrine. I personally say that the 'hard' defence line helped bring us disaster in the Yom Kippur War, and that the IDF must go back to its David-versus-Goliath traditions: knocking the bigger man off balance!"

"Labour would see foreign policy discussions too. People like myself would criticise the Government's over-dependence on the United States, perhaps. This is just as wrong as the almost-forgotten over-dependence on France before 1967."

The Tel Aviv district secretary, in charge of the affairs of some 45,000 Labour members out of a claimed countrywide total of 300,000, bubbles with ideas, opinions and theories. He wants to change a great many conceptions.

"It's time we saw Israel in its true dimensions, shunning Messianism on the one hand and pessimism on the other."

"We cannot carry on in a situation where only \$2.5 billion in aid from a foreign power keeps us afloat."

"We cannot carry on belittling the importance of the Third World, the United Nations, and our one-time friends, the Africans."

"We have to look at the Arabs as they are — and not as our Zionist forebears regarded them. We have to reach a *modus vivendi* with the Arabs, which can ensure us half-a-century of tranquillity."

"In our foreign policy generally we have to think out our moves several steps ahead so that a small state like ours can survive."

Dov Ben-Meir is intensely disturbed by the fact that the Israeli public and its leaders, by and large, are provincial. The need to measure up to day-to-day challenges is partly responsible for this, he concedes, as is the fact that Israel doesn't belong to a larger world family. "So we're all the while stewing in our own juice."

He admits that the Jewish people in general and Israelis in particular cannot always be guided by global perspectives. "They would have ceased to exist long ago, had they done so. Nevertheless, an equilibrium must be found, to prevent the public mood from seersawing up

to exhilaration, and then down to black depression."

Ben-Meir was reluctant to pin the blame on national personalities for spurring exaggerated expectations. He accuses the public as a whole.

"We were caught up in an atmosphere of irrational Messianism, which if taken to extremes, could lead to a second Massada. Yet when anybody made a rational comment on the dangers of such Messianism, it was branded as a traitor to the Jewish national destiny."

The inference was that himself had been so branded.

Where Ben-Meir is willing to blame the top leadership, about their habit of talking too much and too often. "They often say things for the record without thinking them out to the end, as a result they do a lot of damage. And the pity is that they usually do this, to steal headlines from each other."

On a lower level, he believes political and military commentators say more than they need and often talk nonsense.

Dov Ben-Meir urges thinking Israelis to consider a number of new premises, in order to swim their national fate onto a new course.

He believes that Israel will be able to look to the United States for ever as the top global power. Likewise the other major Western-type democracies will also lose their preponderant influence.

Secondly he believes the Communist states will catch up on the capitalist states, in concentration of wealth, resource and capital.

Thirdly, he believes that a terlay of Western, Communist and Third World forces, as populations grow and resource spark conflict, will plunge the world around Israel into a kind of New Middle Ages. To live in such a world, Israel will have to reduce their economic standards sharply, and revitalize their social and political fabric.

"This all means that we have to wake up and realise that the world is changing. And we have to plan our policies to live in the changing world."

Dry Bones



ISRAEL PRESS

Yom Kippur War lessons

DAVAR (Histadrut) says the Yom Kippur War in 1973 opened Israeli eyes to reality... and freed us from a groundless feeling of superiority. It taught us to be aware of smugness and complacency and persuaded us of the need to take a reasonable risk to resolve the dispute... But the paper says this new-found sense is all too often directed at the other fellow, rather than at ourselves. This is especially true with regard to the economy, where the situation is a state of emergency. Yet only lip service is being paid to it.

AL HAMISHMAR (Mapam) says there are three lessons from the war: 1. The need for constant military alertness. 2. Respect for the

other side: its strength, national motivation and self-respect. 3. Disavowal of the concept that the political standoff will continue indefinitely. These lessons made the interim agreement and the beginning of a turning point in our relations with the Arabs possible. Whether the accord proves really to be a turning point will depend on whether President Sadat survives the pressure of the Arab extremists and on the determination of the Israeli Government to proceed to an overall settlement and solution of problems with Syria, Jordan and the Palestinians, and on whether the two superpowers decide to cooperate in promoting peace in the Middle East.

READERS' LETTERS

Urgent need for management training

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post*
Sir, — In his recent article on Business Schools (August 27), Dan Bawli has managed to make a series of unfounded allegations against business schools in the United States and Israel.

Contrary to his claim, most schools both in Israel and abroad keep close contact with their ex-students and study their career development.

As far as the Israeli record is concerned, a recent study of the M.A. graduates in Business Administration at the Hebrew University has shown that 40 per cent are in positions equivalent to either director, deputy-director or senior manager in most of the large companies or government corporations. For a programme which has only been in existence for 10 years, this is an impressive record.

The allegation of lack of ethics in business administration is no more than an attack on the present wave structure of the Israeli universities (of which the business schools are an integral part) and the morality of the sabbatical year is to be judged accordingly. Most university staff earn considerably less in the university than they could in industry and it is only their interest in teaching (and research) which allows for any advanced management training.

In another point, Mr. Bawli entirely confuses the disciplines of economics and business administration. Models of the Israeli economy, national budgets and the like are problems for macro-economists and are not in the domain of business administration.

Dedicated work at Kupat Holim

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post*
Sir, — It was with much interest that I read the article by Maccabee Dean "Healing the Sick Fund" (August 28).

There are many things Mr. Yadin does not know and it would be better in order to find out what is wrong with Kupat Holim to go to the base of the organization instead of to the top. Have a look at the smaller clinics, where the doctors have to cope with hundreds of patients; places that are neglected, paint peeling from walls and furniture; or if they are newly built, it is done without the doctor who has to work there having a say in the construction.

I advise you to have a look at those small clinics, which are not Mr. Yadin's showcases, because you will see much dedicated work done there, not thanks to the leadership of the organization, but in spite of it.

DR. C. JONATHAN BOASSON
Yokne'am, August 28.

Practical job training

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post*
Sir, — I read with great interest David Krivine's article of July 9, "Students need more practical job training." He has hit the nail on the head. More than ever, Israel is in need of educational institutions that provide graduates who can immediately take their place in the ever-expanding and sophisticated industry of this country.

I should like to draw the attention of your readers to the fact that the Jerusalem College of Technology is indeed such an institution.

We offer a three-year course for technology and a four-year degree course. Before the student can graduate, he must complete a practical project in his chosen field in actual factory conditions, under the supervision of a college tutor and the factory management. We thus endeavour to produce graduate students who can be of immediate use and have knowledge of the equipment that they will deal with in Israel's industry. As a result, our graduates are highly sought after and are rapidly absorbed into their places of work.

Moreover, one of the great social problems of the day is the polarization between the religious and secular communities of the state. The Jerusalem College of Technology also attempts to correct this situation by its integrated religious programme.

DOV BET-EL
Public Relations Officer
The Jerusalem College of Technology
Jerusalem, September 2.

Wonderful welcome
To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post*
Sir, — I am a Mexican Jew, and I am very proud of the wonderful welcome the people of Israel gave our President.

VERONICA F. de WEICHSEL
Mexico City, August 10.

POSTSCRIPTS

FOUR VETERANS of the Jewish Legion of World War One have been making a sentimental journey through the country they helped to liberate when they served in the Royal Fusiliers under General Allenby in the campaign of 1917-1918.

Their most memorable stop, writes William Braiterman of Baltimore, was at Moshav Nativ Hagdud some 40 kms north of Jericho. It was in that area that the Jewish Legion was encamped during the High Holy Days of 1918, in the final push to free Palestine from the Ottoman Empire. Nativ Hagdud was recently founded and named in honour of the Legion.

Most of the 30 families in the moshav are sabras and the first baby girl was born there a few weeks ago. The Legion veterans found the members of Nativ Hagdud very anxious to learn what they could of the fighting men after whom their new home has been named and they were invited to visit Beit Hagdudim at the Legion village of Avihail.

While the four veterans were at Nativ Hagdud they arranged a special evening to bring back memories of the days they spent in tents there during Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur. They had brought with them tapes of High Holy Day

liturgy sung by famous cantors of a generation ago, and the settlers listened spellbound to the melodies, which are part of the Ashkenazi heritage.

Another interesting visit was to Sde Nitzan, near Raftah, which specializes in growing hot house tomatoes. The idea originated with one of the settlers, who is the son of the famous Yiddish writer, I.L. Peretz. He learned the technique in New Zealand, where he grew up.

The four veterans are Hyman Reiskin of Netanya, formerly of Elysterville, Maryland; Max Jacobson, formerly of Cleveland and now a Tel Avivian; Abraham Einhorn of Los Angeles and William Braiterman himself. May they all continue to prosper for many years to come.

THE LEAST PUBLICIZED and most successful aliyah movement seems to be from Australia and New Zealand. According to an editorial in the August issue of "Oleh," the journal of the Australian Aliya Centre, 90 per cent of the 2500 people who came to settle in Israel from "down under" between 1969 and 1974 have been successfully integrated. Relatively speaking these figures compare favourably with those of

immigration from the United States. Indeed, Australian settlers become absorbed so well and so rapidly that they very soon merge into the general Israeli landscape.

And the editorial comments that it is often difficult to trace them after a few years. One of the reasons, it is suggested, is the similarity between Australian and Israeli characteristics, climate and topography. Another is that the Aussies tend to be both idealistic and also very realistic about their new lives. The editorial comments that the majority of Western settlers who leave Israel do so because they tend to isolate themselves within what is called the "Anglo Saxon" community, instead of coming to terms with Israeli society as a whole.

Perhaps the ubiquitous eucalyptus, itself a veteran "immigrant" from Australia helps to make Aussies feel at home here. In any case, it might be worth suggesting that the Absorption Ministry and the Jewish National Fund undertake some research into the possibilities of planting northern hemisphere trees, such as maple and others whose leaves turn fiery red in autumn. It might indirectly help immigrant integration.

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